



Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

Board of Directors

Officers

Francis "Bus" Spaniola,
President
Corunna

David H. Brickey,
Vice-President
Ewart

Keith G. Harrison,
Secretary
Holt

Richard S. Johnson,
Treasurer
East Lansing

Directors

Adriana Greci Green
Detroit

Keith I. Pohl
Mason

Charles Seeley
Lansing

Tom Shawver
Lansing

Louise W. Stilwill
East Lansing

Paul M. Tarr, Jr
Lansing

Tom Truscott
Lansing

Bill Wellman
East Lansing

Geneva Kebler Wiskemann
Lansing



FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC

Meeting Minutes

Lansing, Michigan

March 12, 2007

Call to Order

President Bus Spaniola called the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History (Friends) to order at 10:10 AM.

Board Members Present: Keith Harrison, Keith Pohl, Tom Shawver, Bus Spaniola, Louise Stilwill, Paul Tarr, and Geneva Wiskemann.

Board Members Absent: David Brickey, Charles Seeley, Adriana Greci Green, Richard Johnson, Tom Truscott, and Bill Wellman.

Board Members Excused: David Brickey, Charles Seeley, Adriana Greci Green, Richard Johnson, Tom Truscott, and Bill Wellman.

Michigan Historical Museum (Museum) Staff Present: Chris Dancisak.

Approval of Agenda

It was indicated that the agenda should be amended by adding "Michigan History Day Award" under New Business and by moving New Business Item B, Friends/Foundation Agreement, under the "President's Report."

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the agenda as amended; motion passed.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as transmitted; motion passed.

President's Report

President Spaniola indicated that the Friends/Foundation Agreement would be addressed under this agenda item in lieu of his Presidents Report. The Board spent the next hour reviewing and making changes to the February 28, 2007 final draft of the Friends, Michigan Historical Foundation Center (Foundation), Museum Agreement.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Board-revised February 28, 2007 (now March 12, 2007) final draft of the agreement and to transmit it to the Foundation and Museum for consideration; motion passed.

Treasurer Report

Balance	2-28-07	\$10,981.81
Deposit		<u>0.00</u>
Subtotal	2-28-07	= \$10,981.81

FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2007

Page 2

Treasurer's Report continued.

(Subtotal from previous page) = **\$10,981.81**

Uncashed Checks

1305	Mich Iron Industry Museum	\$ 1,000.00
1305	Capitol CAN Surety	+ 100.00
1307	Old Country Caterers	+ 349.25
		<u>\$ 1,449.25</u>

Restricted Funds

Walker Tavern	\$ 616.10
Fayette	+ 0.00
	<u>\$ 616.10</u>

(Subtotal) \$ 2,065.35 - **\$ 2,065.35**

Available Funds = \$ 8,916.46

It was moved and seconded that that the Treasurer's report also should show all encumber dollars as a line item by date of Board approval in the monthly report to the Board; motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report; motion passed.

Presentation of Bills

A. \$517.00– Old Country Caterers (February 22nd, Black History Month Program)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the payment of \$517.00 to Old County Caterers; motion passed.

Museum Report

Chris Dancisak indicated that the Museum will be setting up a new exhibit soon on deer hunting in Michigan. The exhibit is to run through January 2008. It was indicated that Friends would like to explore the possibility of offering a movie presentation of Jeff Daniel's deer hunting comedy, *Escanaba in da Moonlight*, as a possible fund raiser sometime during the time that this exhibit runs. This will be explored further.

Committee Reports

A. *Map Preservation Committee* – No report.

B. *2007 Veterans Day Program Committee* – No report.

C. *Membership Committee* – Committee Chair Keith Harrison distributed material that Adriana Greci Green had provided him. According to Adriana, the Board would be able to offer a 20 percent discount on Wayne State University books to Friends members. Wayne State University would provide the Friends a code to use by Friends members when ordering. This

FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2007

Page 2

also could be used as perk to encourage individuals to join the Friends. Wayne State University has a large catalog of Michigan history books, including quite a few on Civil War history, some are diaries of soldiers, etc., and lots of other topics (Additional topics may be checked out by accessing the Internet catalog at <http://wsupress.wayne.edu/index.html>). According to Keith, Adriana volunteered to create a dedicated flier to include in dedicated membership packets (i.e. one for Civil War interest, one for maritime history interest, one for teachers, etc.).

Wayne State University would handle the orders directly so the Friends would not have to do anything other than to provide the code needed to get the discount for the books. Both the concept and Adriana's offer to create the dedicated fliers were quickly embraced by the Board.

D. *Board Nominating Committee* – Committee Chair Keith Pohl reported on the status of his efforts to secure additional Board members. Paul Tarr indicated that he had been in contact with a probable Board candidate, Mr. Al Medaco (who is an American Indian). Mr. Medaco is very interested in the Friends and will be attending the April 9th meeting of the Board as a guest. Keith Pohl indicated that he will continue to pursue the candidates that he has on his list and will have a report for the next meeting.

E. *Magazine/Military Committee* – No report.

F. *Grants Committee* – No report.

New Business

A. Jackson Civil War Muster Ribbons. Keith Harrison presented a mock-up of draft participant ribbons for adult Civil War reenactors attending the 23rd Annual Jackson, Michigan Cascades Civil War Muster on August 25 to 26, 2007. The "Friends of Michigan History" are acknowledged on the ribbons. The cost for 1,000 ribbons was \$825.00. It was indicated that a donation of \$100.00 had been made by a third party thereby reducing the cost of the ribbons to the Friends to \$725.00.

It was moved and seconded to support the expenditure of \$725.00 for the Jackson, Michigan Cascades Civil War Muster reenactor ribbons; motion passed.

Paul Tarr asked to have explored the concept of providing flag streamers to the Civil War Reenacting units. It also was suggested that streamers could be useful for the annual Veterans Day Program participants. Paul stated that he would be willing to donate \$150.00 towards the streamers. Keith Harrison indicated that he would follow up with the Civil War Muster sponsors to find out the cost to provide the larger flag streamers.

B. Michigan History Day Awards. President Spaniola indicated that he was in receipt of a letter from the Historical Society of Michigan requesting financial assistance from the Friends to acknowledge student achievement in history on Michigan History Day, April 28, 2007. The request was for a total of \$450.00.

It was moved and seconded to support the expenditure of \$450.00 for the student history achievement awards to be presented by the Historical Society of Michigan on Michigan History, Day April 28, 2007; motion passed.

FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2007

Page 3

President Spaniola indicated also that he was in receipt of an email from State Archivist Mark Harvey regarding the possibility of the Friends supporting the piano performance of Mr. Bob Milne to take place in the Michigan Historical Center Forum during Michigan History Week (the performance would be May 19, 2007). The amount of the request was \$1,000.00

It was moved and seconded to support the expenditure of \$1,000.00 to secure the performance of pianist Bob Milne on May 19, 2007, provided that the Friends are duly noted as the sponsor of Mr. Miln's performance; motion passed.

Geneva Wiskemann brought to the attention of the Board the upcoming March 23, 2007 lecture by Martin Frost describing the genesis and progress of the little-known art form known as "Fore-edge Painting." The lecture will be supported by a display of painted books from Mr. Frost's collection. Fore-edge painting dates back to 17th Century Europe and is a very special art. The lecture will be held in the Michigan Rare Book Room on the 4th floor of the Library of Michigan. There will be a reception from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm for Mr. Frost. His lecture will begin at 5:30 pm. RSVPs to attend this lecture may be provided by telephone (517-373-4692). RSVPS are requested by March 20, 2007.

Paul Tarr indicated that he had been made aware of the existence of close to 60 unmarked graves at the old Boys Vocational Training School and wondered if the Friends might possibly consider helping to support the researching of these graves. It was requested that he obtain additional information on this situation and provide a report back to the Board at the April 9, 2007 meeting.

Geneva Wiskemann reminded the Board of the upcoming April 20 and 21, 2007 Michigan in Perspective, 49th Local History Conference and asked about the possibility getting the Friends' exhibit to the Conference. Chris Dancisak indicated that he would check on this. The conference will be held at the McGregor Conference Center at Wayne State University.

Old Business

Keith Harrison indicated that he had been in contact with the Historic Fort Wayne people and that they would love to have the Board hold one of its monthly meetings at the Fort. The dates, from the Board's published meeting schedule, that would be best for them are June 11, August 13, or September 10.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned; motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Keith G. Harrison

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Board of Directors
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

The next Regular Board meeting will be Monday, April 9, 2007, in Lansing.